

Zion Lutheran Church

210 North Wayne Street
Saint Marys, Ohio 45885

Zion Lutheran Church is a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
and a congregation of the Northwest Ohio Mission District.

A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

February, Volume 2022, Issue 2

Preparing Ourselves for Lent

There is no denying that Winter is here. The snow that came down on January 23rd and 24th and the cold temps that dipped to near zero, with wind chills in the minus teens, have announced through these signs that Winter has come. No one in Ohio doubts it.

I wish everyone in Israel had recognized the signs of the coming Messiah so that there had been no doubt when Jesus read from the scroll in the synagogue in Nazareth. So that we could all rejoicing with one another that our sins are forgiven and that the promise of eternal life has been extended to us by God's grace.

Oh, wait, we still can rejoice over that, because even as blind as we in this world might be, the church still sheds the gospel light upon us, calling us into worship and study and teaching and prayer, and most especially, into the promises the sacraments, of forgiven sins and life eternal.

The gospel calls us to all of this because without it we would be lost in our sins whose consequence is condemnation and death. All of us are sinners and all of us are in need of forgiveness. This comes to us in an attitude of repentance – the recognition of our need for God's help and grace. So, for our midweek Lenten worship we will be centered on the theme of repentance. The theme is called 'Return to the Lord' and is taken from Joel 2:13 – "Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster."

God's invitation for us to return to him, and promise of his grace, mercy, patience and steadfast love, finds its fullness in Jesus Christ. Following different events during our Lord's Passion we will focus on the people that followed Jesus to see how God calls his people to return to him. He is our worship schedule for Midweek Lent, 2022.

March 2, 2022 Ash Wednesday: "A Call to Return"
March 9, 2022 Midweek 1: "Return to Prayer"
March 16, 2022 Midweek 2: "Return from Betrayal"
March 23, 2022 Midweek 3: "Return from False Witness"
March 30, 2022 Midweek 4: "Return from Denial"
April 6, 2022 Midweek 5: "Return from the Kingdom of God"
April 14, 2022 Holy Thursday: "Return to the Table"
April 15, 2022 Good Friday: "Return to the Truth"
April 17, 2022 Easter Sunday: "Return and See"

I hope you will mark these dates in your calendar and join us for these services. May you also make repentance an intentional attitude for yourself this Lenten season.

From Ashes we are, to ashes we will return,

Pastor Bill

Thank You Notes

- From Filling Homes Foundation for our recent gift of \$275.
- From Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center for our recent gift of \$222. “Blessings and thank you from the Wernle boys and girls! -CP”
- From Samaritan’s Purse for our recent gift of \$24 to Operation Christmas Child.
- From Oesterlen for our recent gift of \$10.

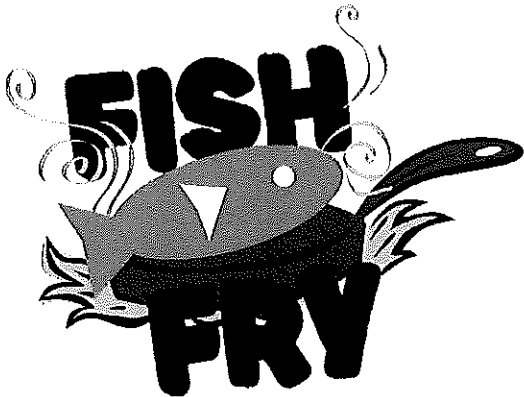


Valentine’s Day Craft

Februarys Craft will be making a 2-ingredient fudge for Valentine's Day. We will meet in the church kitchen on Sunday, February 13, from 2-4 p.m. The cost for the project will be \$5, to be paid the day of the craft. Group size limited to 12 people. Open to all: men, women, or youth. All supplies will be provided. Sign up in the binder on the display table.

Fish Fry

A Fish Fry to benefit our seminary student and assist them with the expenses of seminary is being held in the auditorium on Friday, March 4, from 4:30—6 p.m. Menu: all you can eat fish, cheesy potatoes, slaw, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, hot dogs, and drinks...including milk. Tickets are being sold in the church office and at the door. Tickets are: \$8 for adults, \$3 for children between 4-10 years old, free for children under 4.



Staff E-Mail Addresses

Zion is linked to the Internet. We are currently receiving e-mail service provided by bright.net. Staff e-mail addresses are:

- Pastor Bill Maki wllmmaki@yahoo.com
- Kathy Bishir kbishir@hotmail.com
- Ann Maki annmmaki@yahoo.com
- Mindy Thiebeau zionbpe@hotmail.com
- General Mail..... zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net

“If the earth is forgiveness school, family is your postdoctoral fellowship.” —Anne Lamott

Year-Round Project

Our Men in Mission are collecting supplies for flood buckets. This is a year-round project, to have buckets available before a disaster happens.

Flood Buckets and Supplies:

- 5-gallon bucket with lid
- 1 gallon of bleach
- 2 black trash bags
- Cleaning liquid
(Murphy's, Pine Sol,
etc.)
- Comet
- Scrub brush
- 1 roll paper towels
- Leather Gloves
- Cloth Gloves
- Rubber Gloves
- Rags/sponges



You may supply one or more of the items for the buckets, or you may assemble a bucket yourself. Drop off your supplies or bucket by the alley entrance.

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Pastor Bill Maki wllmmaki@yahoo.com
Kathy Bishir kbishir@hotmail.com
Ann Maki annmmaki@yahoo.com
Mindy Thiebeau zionbpe@hotmail.com
General Mail..... zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net

Memorials

- Gifts were given in memory of Janice Daugherty by Darl & Kathy Bishir, Harry & Nora Staunton and Ed & Linda Yahl.
- A gift was given in memory of Terry Finke by Joyce Finke.
- A gift was given in memory of Peggy Hurick by Harry & Nora Staunton.
- Gifts were given in memory of Carla J. Sprague, Craig H. Suchland, Sandra Brown, Jimmie D. Merriman, Ronald E. Langsdon, and David Lee Lutz by the Zion Women of the NALC.
- A gift was given in memory of George Hut and Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hecht by Kermit & Alana Hecht.
- A gift was given in memory of Susan Hecht by Ralph Hecht.
- Gifts were given in memory of Rick Moyar and Doris Tigner by Ed & Linda Yahl.
- A gift was given by Kathryn Schneider in memory of her grandmother, Helen Huttis.



News for the Women of Zion

Mark your calendars for February 20, at 2 p.m. That is when we will be holding our Celebration of Women Event. Do you know the three types of Queens in the Bible? How many Queens in the Bible can you name? Come enjoy an afternoon tea celebrating Queens in the Bible and present day. A light lunch will be served. The cost is \$5 per person. Tickets go on sale January 30 to February 13. *Please note: this event replaces the women's celebration usually held in April because of the closeness to Easter the date has been changed.*

Our Lenten Fundraiser will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 2, and run through April 16. Envelopes will be handed out on Ash Wednesday. We ask that you put 50 cents in the envelope each day except Sundays during Lent, for a total of 40 days. This can co-inside with your daily devotions. We will collect the envelopes on Easter Sunday. This is the women's only fundraiser to help cover the costs of our events, to purchase supplies for mission kits and quilts, to help with funeral memorials and miscellaneous items in our budget. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.

Our next workday is Thursday, February 17, at 9 a.m. We will no longer be sending kits and quilts to Lutheran World Relief. All of our donations will be going to the NALC as their mission is helping Americans in need when disaster strikes. LWR is allowing Arab countries to take credit for kits being supplied by Christians and we do not agree with this policy. The people receiving kits from Christian organizations should be told who the kits are coming from, not that Muslim leaders are providing them. Therefore, will no longer be doing baby kits, but the NALC will accept packaged disposable baby diapers and baby blankets. In place of the baby kits, the women's board has decided to collect items for Samaritan's Purse Christmas boxes. We will include these items on the list of items for personal care kits and school kits.

Happy Valentine's Day to all!

Nora Staunton, Chair of the Women of NALC

Book Club

The February book is "All I Know About Animal Behavior I Learned in Loehmann's Dressing Room" by Erma Bombeck and led by Pam Fledderjohann. March's book is "A Month of Summer" by Lisa Wingate and led by Miriam Johns. Happy reading!

Love-ly Superlatives

To fall in love with God is the greatest of romances, to seek him the greatest adventure, to find him the greatest human achievement.

—St. Augustine

Craft Corner

- March's project is a fleece scarf. Meet Tuesday, March 8, from 6-7 p.m., in the all-purpose room. Cost is \$5, limit 16 people. Sign up in the notebook on the display table in the narthex, for either project, and look at future projects listed in the notebook. Come and enjoy the fun and fellowship!

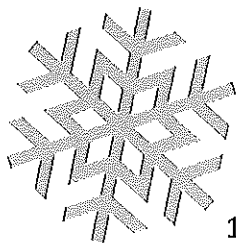
Prayer List

We invite you to include the following people in your daily prayers. The people on the list are friends and family or our membership:

Janet Dicke, Judy Von Blon, Juli Clark, Brent Paulus, Lindsay Stephan, Sandi Deerhake, Marvin Elsass, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, Carol Bishir, Mark, Amelia Green, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Vicki Bishir, Kason Thobe, Ann Morris, Craig Raney, Ken Ankerman, John & Katie, Kristin Hemmelgarden, Elly (Cisco) Puttoff & Family, Stephanie Tenyak, Dennis Olberding, Chuck, Deb Ranly, Linda Diers, Sally Van Belkum, Andrew, Ron & Sandy Suchland, Betty Paulus, Mike Mammane, Shelia Slemmons, Darlene Henkener, Bill Nuss, Jackie & Dwayne Axe, Jack Beard, Pam Stapleton, Peter Ackroyd, John & Jane Hiles, the Family of Bill Paulus, and the Family of LouAnn Knoth.

Please pray for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Jason Gross, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin and Kyle Schmehl who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family, and their safe return home.

Flower Chart



The first 6 months of 2022 Flower Chart is available on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the Tuesday before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and contact the church office, 419-394-3115, to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin. Upcoming dates still available: March 27, April 3, April 10, April 17, May 1, May 8 and May 15.

"A smile is the light in your window that tells others that there is a caring, sharing person inside."
—*Denis Waitley*

Zion's Web Address

Our web address is: www.zionstmarys.org We continually change the appearance, post up-to-date announcements, update our schedules, and update our calendar. Bookmark us and visit our website weekly.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed **Monday, February 21st**, in observance of Presidents' Day.

February Birthdays

Wishing a Happy Birthday to the following members of Zion Lutheran Church. We invite you to pray for the following people on their special day.

2	Marilyn Nedderman, Randy Lauth, Judy Flora	15	Alexa Coldiron, Kathryn Lampert, Robert Hinschlager
3	Collin Reier	16	Dan Macklem
4	Elizabeth Johnson, Boston Reier, Scott Ross, Dana Runnion	17	Melissa Elshoff
5	John Hesse, Everett Halbert	18	David Kiel
6	Connor Berner, Ruth E. Langsdon, Xander Meinerding	19	Bailey Lampert, Dawn Houser
7	Larry Daugherty	20	Mindy Thiebeau
8	Jacob Falasco	22	Gretchen Langsdon, Nora Staunton, Barbara Weadock
9	Jason Homan	23	Betty Hussey, Stacey Putman, Suzette Putman
10	Dominic Block	24	Caleb Cisco, Brian Cook, Dana Cook, Nancy Hoenie
11	Kelsey Burke, Cody Paul	25	Donna Ankerman, Donna Yates
12	Jane Hiles, Carl Keysor, Kerri Masonbrink, Janice Suchland	26	Sandra Burd, Linda Diers
13	Penny Kogge, Denise Huttis	28	Deborah Brown, Simon Schrader
14	Jessica Eberle, Abigail Bond-Awls, Leah Bowman		



If your name was omitted or a correction needs to be made in this list of birthdays, please contact the church office, 419/394-3115.



February 2022 Calendar

Weather and COVID requirements, the schedule is subject to change.

T/1	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting		10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Svc.*
	6:00 p.m.	Trustee Meeting	M/7	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout #360
	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting		7:00 p.m.	Pastor Lead Bible Study
W/2	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline		7:00 p.m.	Women’s Fellowship
	1:00 p.m.	Book Club	T/8	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Worship Svc.		7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
		No Confirmation Class	W/9	9:30 a.m.	Zion Women of NALC Board
S/6	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Svc. **		Meeting	
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Grandparents’		11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	Day			12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline

	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Worship Svc.*		10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship*
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class		7:00 p.m.	Men's Workshop
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study	M/21	7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship Group
T/10	2:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study	T/22	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
S/12	9:00 a.m.	Men in Mission Bible Study	W/23	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
S/13	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service ⁺		12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Info. Deadline
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Jesus Loves Me Event		6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Worship Svc.*
				7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service		7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Committee Mtg.
	2:00 p.m.	Craft Project-Fudge	T/24	3:30 p.m.	Council Report Deadline
M/14	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study	S/26	7:00 p.m.	St. Marys Tri-Squares
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360	S/27	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Svc. *
T/15	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	3:30 p.m.	Newsletter Article Deadline		10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Svc.*
W/16	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Info. Deadline	M/27	1:30 p.m.	Grief & Loss Support Group
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Worship Svc.		5:00 p.m.	Elder's Meeting
		No Confirmation Class		7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship
T/17	9:00 a.m.	Women's Workday		7:00 p.m.	Pr. Lead Discussion Group
	7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Rehearsal		7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360
S/20	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Svc.*			
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School			

Year-to-Date Financial Information

Financial Information: Our current financial information for Zion is as follows for year-to-date for the month.

- 1/1/2022 Beginning Balance--\$81,668
 - January 2022 YTD Income--\$18,452
 - January 2022 YTD Expenses--(-\$26,465)
 - January 2022 Ending Bank Balance--\$73,655
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The Gift of Animals

When God made the animals and gave them to the first human being in the Garden of Eden, though they weren't *precisely* the companion Adam needed, not all was lost. According to Genesis 2, God gave Adam the privilege of naming them all, and when you name something or someone, you bond with that being in a special way. Ever since creation, humans and animals have been connected — often for good purposes, though sometimes not; as the saying goes, "It's complicated."

But on the positive side, Trisha McCagh, a renowned animal communicator, writes: "Animals are the bridge between us and the beauty of all that is natural. They show us what's missing in our lives, and how to love ourselves more completely and unconditionally. They connect us back to who we are and to the purpose of why we're here."

I would say animals also show us how to love other people, nonhuman beings and the earth more completely and unconditionally. And they call our attention to God's creativity. Praise God for the gift of the vast variety of animals with whom we share this planet!

—Heidi Hyland Mann